

Cheshvan/Kislev 5764
CXLVI No. 5

H A R S I N A I T E M P L E

Bulletin

December
2003

Worship Services

Friday, December 5 8:00 pm
Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 6 10:30 am
Bar Mitzvah
Max Katten Popkin
Son of Daniel Popkin
and Pamela Katten נ"י

Friday, December 12 8:00 pm
Social Action Shabbat Service
Guest Speaker: Jerry Ehrlich
Doctors Without Borders

Saturday, December 13 10:30 am
Bar Mitzvah
Noah Stevenson Simon
Son of Gale Stevenson
and Michael Simon

Friday, December 19 7:30 pm
Chanukah Family Shabbat Service
December Birthday Blessings

Friday, December 26 8:00 pm
Shabbat Service

Friday, January 2 8:00 pm
Shabbat Service

Saturday, January 3 10:30 am
Bar Mitzvah
Nathan Papperman
Son of Nancy and Ray Papperman

Friday, January 9 8:00 pm
Shabbat Service
Guest Speaker: Abbey Bender
"The Irish, The Jews, and the Exodus"

Saturday, January 10 10:30 am
Shabbat Morning Service

Friday, January 16 8:00 pm
Shabbat Service

Saturday, January 17 10:30 am
Bar Mitzvah
Keith Traffican
Son of Minda and Rick Traffican

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS

Last month, I had the adventurous task of buying my wife a new cell phone. Her old cell phone battery died and I was told it was "cost effective" to obtain a new, technologically more advanced, cell phone than to buy a battery for an outdated two-year-old primitive one. I remember just four years ago when we were both very suspicious about owning a cell phone. After all, we do have phones in the house and in our offices. We concluded that cell phones were relatively expensive and would be just one more item to carry around and probably lose.

A cell phone, we reasoned, was a luxury item, something that truly was not needed in our lives. Furthermore, owning a cell phone would afford more opportunities to have conversations that could render me even more aggravated during the day. We also could not comprehend many of the cell phone plans. We did not understand the concept of "free minutes" as opposed to "free roaming minutes" as opposed to "free minutes between cell phones on the same plan." We felt that any company that used the word "free" more than twice in their promotions had to be somewhat shady.

When I asked members of our congregation their opinions of cell phones, they said that it was extremely important that we have a cell phone in order to have instant communication, but added that there are some places where the reception is so horrible that we wouldn't be able to use the cell phones anyway. One of those places would be the entire area of Yardley where we live.

So we decided to wait on the issue. About two years ago, we decided to take the plunge. The price of cell phones had come down dramatically and, in fact, if you sign up for a certain cell phone plan, they give you the phone. Again we were both quite apprehensive about how important a cell phone would be in our lives. Our apprehensions quickly dissipated once the cell phone entered our lives.

Hence, last month, I had to rush to get my wife a new cell phone because even one day without it put her in dangerous jeopardy. I could not reach her to give vital information on the whereabouts of our children, carpooling etc. She couldn't contact me in an easy manner.

We don't feel secure about driving in our cars without our trusted cell phones. So what once was considered a luxury of high tech superficiality is now considered so vital that I had to run out in a panic in order to ensure that my wife is in constant communication, or at least has the potential of being in regular contact with the world.

In fact, it is so much a part of our lives that we don't even think about having a cell phone on our person. It is just as natural as wearing a

continued page 2

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS CONTINUED

wristwatch. I also discovered that, just as there are many different styles and kinds of wristwatches, there is an infinite number of choices of cell phones. Whereas, two years ago, a cell phone that could simply operate was more than adequate, now we want color screens and other bells and whistles. What was once an extravagance is now an integral part of our lives. When thinking about this, it occurred to me that we could add to this a list of items that were once not considered essential to our lives but now are indispensable: air conditioning, color televisions, electric car windows, and computers. Every innovation begins as a curiosity and ends up as a central part of our lives.

I was wondering about how many material things have progressed from being nonessential innovations to being critical parts of our lives. This happens continuously in the world of technology but does this happen in the world of spirituality?

The concept of One God, when it was introduced into world history some 3500 years ago, was considered by some to be a curiosity, a novel way of looking at the world. Yet, over time, monotheism has become a fundamental and essential part of civilization itself.

In our Jewish tradition, many ideas began as curiosities on the landscape of the world's cultures and then developed as basic rubrics to the structuring of civilized culture. At one point in history, the Ten Commandments and the ethical and moral statutes of Judaism seemed as superficial as cell phones; yet, over time, they came to provide the definition of a humane civilization. Over time, ideas once thought to be heresy or mere oddities came to be seen as valid and important.

Every once in a while, it is good to step back and to reflect on the new technological innovations of our lives and how we are so dependent upon them; by reflecting upon their worthiness, we regain a new appreciation for them and also put them into some kind of perspective.

Maybe the same should be said for our fundamental ideas of behavior. All we have to do is look back at a time when the morals and ethics we live by today were either considered outlandish or were not yet even in existence. Just as we wonder how we were ever able to live without cell phones or laptops or wide screen televisions, we wonder how people existed without a belief system founded upon principals of moral rectitude and ultimately upon the existence of One God.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE STEVE MILLER

We have a beautiful Temple. I have been privileged to spend a lot of time in our Sanctuary lately, much of it on our bimah. Looking out at the Sanctuary, I felt saddened that soon we will be leaving this beautiful place. I thought of the models of historical synagogues I had seen in Israel. I thought about the joys and grief these walls had seen. The parade of B'nai Mitzvah, weddings, High Holy Days packed to capacity, and even funerals. This is not a good time for me to be getting sentimental.

I thought back to the photos I had seen of our first temple. It was quite modest compared to where we are now. I thought about the spirited Board Meetings and the Capital Campaigns, the hard work of those dedicated temple members who brought us to 491 Bellevue Avenue. How proud our forefathers must have been of their new Temple back in 1930.

But then I thought about our Congregation. By building a

new temple, we are not taking something from them, but giving them something better, a future. It isn't about old or new, but about people. It is people who make Har Sinai, not bricks and mortar. It is people who celebrate joys and seek comfort in their sorrows. It is our people who come together to worship and celebrate life cycle events.

In order for us to grow and prosper as a Congregation, we must relocate to where our people are. We may have a magnificent Sanctuary, but we can no longer attract enough new members to replace members who resign for a variety of reasons. Without people, our sanctuary loses its glory. It is our duty to follow our people and to serve our community. Doing the right thing is not always easy. Leaving Bellevue Avenue will be difficult for many of our people. I am confident that our new location will refresh our Congregation, just as our previous moves have. It is our membership that makes Har Sinai great.



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORT

Magda Reyes, Director of Education

It continues to amaze me, when I see them sitting at the computer, which is much more often than I would like, how quickly my kids have integrated this technology into their lives. My seven-year-old's fingers fly on the keyboard while he's protecting the free world from those nasty invaders or figuring out the spelling of "Thursday." My sixteen-year-old daughter's day begins and ends at the computer catching up on the latest news from friends. And when it comes to writing term papers..."mom, you didn't have spellchecker on the typewriter?" In college, my oldest's social and academic life hinges on the computer.

I confess, I am not the most literate person when it comes to computers.

But the kids are.

Computers have equaled, if not replaced television, as the most important entertainment medium today. Their potential as an educational tool is equally impressive. Secular schools have recognized the enormous appeal and value of using computers in the classroom as an alternate teaching tool, to take its place alongside the abacus, flashcards and the calculator. Jewish education has lagged behind secular education in the development of appropriate material for teaching in the congregational school, but I am beginning to see more and more quality CD's coming on the market that our school could use. One of the Jewish publishing companies that supplies our textbooks has just this year produced a computer CD that coincides with the textbook and can be used in school or at home for Hebrew reading practice.

And herein lies my appeal to the congregation. My goal for the end of the year is to have a computer in each of our classrooms with appropriate software for the children to use during classtime. I am, therefore, looking for donations of used but functioning Intel/Windows computers, along with keyboards, monitors, mice, mouse pads, speakers, surge protectors and computer stands. In order to run our software, we must limit donated computers to minimum configurations of at least 500Mhz Pentium III, Celeron or AMD Processor, at least a 20 GB Hard Drive and at least 256MB of RAM memory. We are looking for a CD-ROM drive, and preferably a DVD drive, as well. Any suggestions for educational Hebrew CD's are very welcome.

Please contact me at Har Sinai (609 392-7143) or to discuss a donation. We will have a drop-off day in January for all items.

Education in the classroom should incorporate many different levels and techniques. The effective teacher is tuned in to the interests and abilities of all the children in the classroom and exploit them to implement her curriculum. Adding yet another teaching tool, such as the computer, will greatly enhance the quality of Jewish education for our students. Thank you, in advance, for helping us achieve this goal.

Religious School Calendar December 2003

Friday/ Saturday, December 5 & 6: - 8th and 9th grades go to Temple Emanuel in Baltimore

Sunday, December 7:

- 4th grade family program 8:30AM-11:30AM (ends at Greenwood House)
- 5th grade trip to Congregation Brothers of Israel to see A Town that Fought Hate
- 7th grade Mitzvah Shopping Day
- Chanukah Shop is open
- Choir meets at 1PM

Sunday, December 14:

- Parents are invited to join their children as Eva Grayzel, the storyteller, presents Chanukah
- Parent Workshop follows presentation
- Chanukah Shop is open
- Preschool meets, 8:45-10:15AM
- Choir meets 10:30 -11:00AM

Friday, December 19 -

- **Chanukah Dinner 6:15PM**
- Grades 2 & 3 Chanukah Sing Along
- Chanukah Service 7:30PM

Sunday, December 21, to
Tuesday, December 30 -No Religious School

Sunday, January 4, 2004 -Religious School resumes

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sharon Gertzman and David Dafilou, who live in Pennington, and their children, Benjamin, in Grade 4; Caleb, Grade 2; Jonah, 5 years old; and Rose, 2 years old.

Ellen Ferreira, who lives in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey.

Richard Pollock and Eric Risberg, who live in Titusville.



ADULT PROGRAM AND LEARNING

Tuesdays at 12 noon

LUNCH AND LEARN

The "Lunch and Learn Series" this year is focusing upon one of the greatest works of spirituality ever penned, Maimonides' "A Treatise on the Soul." This extraordinary classic of Medieval Jewish thought explores such themes as virtue, vice, ethics, God, and free will. Classes meet in the Temple Library. You bring the lunch; we provide the soda and/or coffee. Please join us for what will prove to be an exploration of the very essence of our humanness.

Wednesday, December 10, at 8:00 pm

HOME STUDY GROUP

Home Study this year is reviewing the Book of *Exodus* in which we read not only of the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, but also of the beginning of an organized equitable court system and of the mysteries behind the construction of the Tabernacle. Please join us for this fascinating look at one of the seminal books of all time. The December 10 meeting will be held at the home of Doris and Dan Kramer in Yardley. To RSVP, and for directions, call the Kramers at 215-493-4280.

Each Friday Morning in December at 10:30 am

SHABBAT SERVICES AT GREENWOOD HOUSE

Join Rabbi and/or Cantor every Friday at Greenwood House for a Shabbat Service with the residents. This brief service is meaningful to the residents, many of whom are still members of our congregation. They enjoy even a brief visit with other members of our congregation.

Friday, December 12, at 8:00 pm

SOCIAL ACTION SHABBAT SERVICE

with Guest Speaker Dr. Jerry Ehrlich
"Doctors Without Borders"

Dr. Jerry Ehrlich, a volunteer for *Doctors Without Borders* will address the congregation on this Noble prize winning organization. Dr. Ehrlich will present a slide presentation on his various travels throughout the world. MÈdecins Sans Frontières (also known as Doctors Without Borders or MSF) delivers emergency aid to victims of armed conflict, epidemics, and natural and man-made disasters, and to others who lack health care due to social or geographical isolation.

Doctors Without Borders was founded in 1971 by a small group of French doctors who believed that all people have the right to medical care regardless of race, religion, creed or political affiliation, and that the needs of these people supersede respect for national borders. It was the first non-governmental organization to both provide emergency medical assistance and publicly bear witness to the plight of the populations they served.

A private, nonprofit organization, Doctors Without Borders provides

primary health care, performs surgery, rehabilitates hospitals and clinics, runs nutrition and sanitation programs, trains local medical personnel, and provides mental health care. Through longer-term programs, Doctors Without Borders treats chronic diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, sleeping sickness, and AIDS. Each year, more than 2,500 volunteer doctors, nurses, other medical professionals, logistics experts, water/sanitation engineers, and administrators join 15,000 locally hired staff to provide medical aid in more than 80 countries

SAVE THE DATES

Beginning Saturday, January 24, at 9:15 am

A SIX-PART ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

MYSTERIES OF RELIGION THROUGH JEWISH EYES

On six Saturday mornings from 9:15-10:15, Rabbi Pollack will be teaching a course entitled *Mysteries of Religion through Jewish Eyes*. This course will focus on six mysteries of religion that have plagued humankind for centuries. Rabbi Pollack will give the Jewish point of view to each of these riddles. This will prove to be both an enlightening and fascinating attempt to understand the inexplicable. There will be refreshments served and a short Sabbath morning service afterwards. The topics will be:

January 24: "What Happens When We Die?"

January 31: "What Ever Happened to the Ark of the Covenant?"

February 7: "Who Wrote the Bible?"

February 21: "Did Moses Exist?"

March 6: "Who Killed Jesus?"

March 13: "Does the DaVinci Code Have Anything To Do With Judaism?"

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, January 10, at 7:30 pm

COMEDY CABARET

A light supper and delicious desserts will be served

BYOB (and your friends)

Chaired by Beth Deitchman, Lisa Kimmelman,

Jill Schwartz, and Jill Shaffer

Your flyer is in the mail.

Sisterhood Presents..

22nd ANNUAL CHANUKAH FAMILY DINNER

Friday, December 19, at 6:15 pm

Your flyer is in the mail.

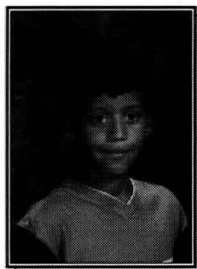
HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL

by Steve Miller, President

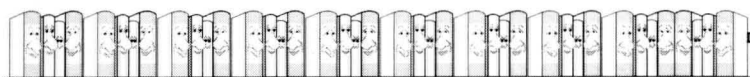
I wish to thank the following families who have pledged and contributed to Har Sinai's Ninth Annual High Holiday Appeal. The proceeds from this project will be split equally between the Temple Capital Projects Fund and the Endowment Fund. Any additional donations to this vital campaign will be gratefully accepted.

Rita A. Allen, Alan Aptner, Debbie Bard, Ruth and Don Barrack, Johna Bingham, Roxanne and Hank Bernstein, Anne and Marty Bloomenthal, Janice and Barry Blumberg, Ursula Brooks, Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Chamlin, Ariel Perelmutter and Gene Chertock, Evelyn Cohen, Kathleen and Lew Dauer, Beth and Marty Deitchman, Ruthie and Barry Edelman, Kathy and Alvin Feldman, Nancy and Jeff Fine, Cynthia and Philip Fine, Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Frank, Nancy and Barry Frost, Shelly and Ken Gallo, Dorothy Glogoff, Hon. Bernard and Barbara I. Goldberg, Jean and Morton Goldstein, Donna and Stephan Goldstein, Barbara and Michael Goodman, Mrs. Betty Gottlieb, Harriet and Sherman Gould, Madeline and Steve Gubernick, Ellin and Stuart Hirsch, Joanne and Richard Hochman, Janet and Steve Hochman, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney L. Hofing, Dr. George and Joan Isaacson, Laura Lichstein and Steve Isaacson, Edith and William Joseph, Frances Kadesh, Sharon and Bob Kahn, Jane Zamost and Gary Karlin, Lisa and Simon Kimmelman, Audrey and Clive Klatzkin, Bernice E. Kline, Rita M. Kravitz, Lois Lardieri, Audrey Lavine, Randi and John Lawrie, Charlotte and Herb Levin, Ruth and Allen M.H. Levine, Phyllis and Abraham Levine, Becky and Jim Levy, Linda and Paul Levy, Phyllis and Dennis Malinger, Judy and Lowell Mann, Mrs. Robert G. Marcus, Emily Rose and James Marrow, Laurie and Steve Miller, Judy and Donald Millner, Rose Movitch, Jeanne and Art Nahan, Rita and Lew Pepperman, Rabbi Bernard and Eleanor Perelmutter, Betty and Mervyn Platt, Daniel Popkin, Marcia Primus, Robin and Greg Rapport, Laura and Jim Reiser, Marilyn Weinstein and Stephen Ringel, Abby Jaroslow and David Robinson, Muriel and Fred Rosenfeld, Ezra Schneier, Helen M. Schwartz, Jill and Brian Shaffer, Mary and Bert Sheff, Lisette and Hank Siegel, Marjorie and Harvey Silk, Natalie and Amel Stark, Cindy and Steven Sussman, Jane G. Thomas, The Traffican Family, Alexis and Scott Weiner, Wendy L. Weiss, Alice and Howard Welt, Susan and Ronald Wexler, Cantor David and Hope Wisnia, Carol and Herbert Zemble.

BAR MITZVAH
DECEMBER
Noah Simon



Library News



Rita Allen, Librarian (ritaallen@sbcglobal.net)

Watch this space for announcement of some of the new books that have been ordered on the Kabbalah and other interesting subjects. They will be arriving soon, and will be placed on the bookshelves outside the library.

Here are some guidelines for borrowers:

1. The Card Catalog, just inside the Library door, lists our books by author, title, and subject, alphabetically.
2. In the back of the book you will find a book card. Please sign it and leave the card in the box on top of the card catalog.
3. When you return the book, please place it the cabinet just inside the Library door.

By following these important guidelines, we can assure that our books will be properly signed out and returned for the continued pleasure of our congregants. If you need any help in locating material, please contact me...Phone: 215/295-0115; ritaallen@sbcglobal.net

H A R S I N A I T H A N K S

...**DEBBIE MANNELLA AND RITA ALLEN**, for coordinating the very successful Book Fair for Jewish Book Month.

...**ROBERTA AND ART FRANK**, for hosting the November 12 meeting of the Home Study Group.

...**JEAN AND MORTON GOLDSTEIN**, for chairing another amazing Renaissance success story...the 11th Annual Ethnic Dinner, which took place on November 23 at Greenacres Country Club, celebrated ("A Yankee Doodle Dandy Dinner") the cuisine of New England with a patriotic flare...thanks to pianist Steve Kramer who provided the background ambience.

...**ALL THOSE PARENTS** who attended the Religious School's Open House and Sisterhood Schmooze, got to watch their children's teachers teaching and learn a little more about our Temple, our School, and our Auxilliaries...special thanks to **SISTERHOOD**, for sponsoring the event.

...**STEVE GUBERNICK**, President; **ARIEL SCHWARTZ**, Publicity; **THE TELEPHONE SQUAD**; AND **ALL THOSE WHO ATTENDED** the Men's Club Opening Brunch on November 9.

...**NANCY LAPOSTA AND JEAN RICHMAN**, for volunteering to chaperone the Hebrew High School trip to Philadelphia on November 2 where they visited The Jewish Museum and had lunch in a genuine Kosher Chinese Restaurant.

...**LOIS GLASSER**, who is with CancerCare NJ, for her stimulating discussion as Guest Speaker at the November 14 Shabbat Service.

...**LINDA GEYER-BOLDER**, for coordinating the Sisterhood Book Review of Laura Shaine Cunningham's "*Beautiful Bodies*" on November 16...and to **Rabbi Pollack**, who, in his inimitable way was able to "spin" "Bodies" enough to make the run-of-the-mill novel reviewable.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please call the school at 609 392-7143

Check Temple Har Sinai's website at www.harsinai.org

Listen to WBCB, WPST 97.5FM or WHWH1350AM for information.

Whenever possible, you will also get a phone call from a class parent or school member.

Thank you.

THE BLOODMOBILE IS COMING

Sunday, December 14

8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Har Sinai Library

For Information, or to Volunteer,
Call Chairman Dr. Glenn Palsky at 215-736-2857

RENAISSANCE

Jan Kind and Harriet Gould, Co-Chairpersons

Tuesday, December 9

NEW YORK CITY TRIP

Bus leaves Temple at 8:00 am

Tour of the Spanish-Portuguese Synagogue

Shearith Israel

Visit The Jewish Museum's

Schoenberg, Kandinsky Exhibit

Chair: Rose Movitch

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

DUKE GARDENS AND MUSEUM

Somerville, NJ

Lunch at Willie's Taverne

Bedminster, NJ

Chairs: Lee Rosenberg and Eunice Levie

Thursday, April 15, 2004

Visit the New

CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia

Lunch at Allie's American Grille

(located in the Marriott Hotel)

Chair: Bobbie and Marshall Glatzer

Sunday, May 23, 2004

New Jersey Symphony

Newark Performing Arts Center

Soloist: Andre Watts, pianist

Dinner at Tony Da Caneca's

Chair: Harriet Gould

BULLETIN BOARD

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4	Nathan Papperman	13 yrs
6	Seth Rosenau	9 yrs
10	Malcolm Bingham	11 yrs
21	Samuel LaPosta	12 yrs
22	Maxim Millan	9 yrs
24	Theodore Fine	9 yrs
28	Gordon Wolf	8 yrs

SPECIAL DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

8	Miriam Geller
9	Muriel Zeltmacher
12	Joseph Kline
13	Aileen Freedman
24	Doris Silverstein
25	Herman Chermak

SIGNIFICANT DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

3	Gloria & Theodore Vine	61 yrs
4	Hope & Stuart Kadesh	25 yrs
15	Janet & Herman Chermak	61 yrs
20	Ellen & Anthony Buchsbaum	10 yrs
22	Jill & Edward Bernstein	25 yrs
26	Edith & Arnold Gordon	51 yrs
28	Harriet & Sherman Gould	57 yrs

HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2	Jourdan Wexler	12 yrs
6	Max Baumann	12 yrs
8	Jacob Keats	10 yrs
	Jennie Kratz	8 yrs
9	Jack Schondel	2 yrs
17	Keith Traffican	13 yrs
25	Caleb Dafilou	8 yrs
26	Janet D'Anna	9 yrs
29	Ian Wolf	12 yrs

SPECIAL JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

6	Henry Glazer
9	Charlotte Millner
10	Gus Gellens
12	Florence Power

SIGNIFICANT JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

4	Sandra & Richard Nitzberg	45 yrs
7	Ruth & Allen M.H. Levine	53 yrs
11	Norma & Fred Byer	62 yrs
	Beth & Martin Deitchman	15 yrs
14	Susan & Ronald Wexler	15 yrs
19	Jean & Morton Goldstein	57 yrs
20	Maxene & Saul Feinberg	58 yrs
25	Susan & Jed Weisberger	30 yrs

Oneg Shabbat Sponsors

Ina and Michael Katz, in honor of their son, Matthew, who became a Bar Mitzvah.

Lisette and Hank Siegel, in honor of LeighAnne Daly, who became a Bat Mitzvah.

Lorell Levy and Phil Hartman, in honor of daughter, Emma Hansen, who became a Bat Mitzvah.

Bobbie and Bart Kroungold, in honor of their granddaughter, Abby Schwartz, who became a Bat Mitzvah.

Lisa and John Mehl, in honor of the namings of their children, Golda and Avi.

Oneg Shabbat Donors

Susan and Jed Weisberger, Dorothy S. Zorn


Pulpit Flowers

Ina and Michael Katz, in honor of their son, Matthew, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Wendy Weiss and Paul Daly, in honor of their daughter, LeighAnne, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Lorell Levy and Phil Hartman, in honor of Lorell's daughter, Emma Hansen, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Jill and Ariel Schwartz, in honor of their daughter, Abby, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.



• Weddings
• Bar / Bat Mitzvahs
• Portraits

Barry M. Hertzberg
Photographer

Rapport Party Bands

Corporate Events Weddings Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

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Greg Rapport
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Mazel Tov to...

Edith and Bill Joseph, on the installation of their daughter-in-law, Shira Joseph, wife of Saul Joseph, as Rabbi of Congregation Sha'aray Shalom in Hingham, Massachusetts.

Laura Lichstein and Dr. Steve Isaacson, parents; and **Dr. George and Joan Isaacson**, grandparents; on the October 30 birth of Sydney Rose Isaacson.

Rochelle and Helmut Lecke, on the November 2 birth of grandson, Jack Warren Goldfeder. Jack is the son of Carrie and Dr. Phil Goldfeder.

Dr. Saul and Renee Wolfson, on the November 1 wedding of their son, Dr. Michael Wolfson, to Dr. Melanie Schatz.

In Memoriam

May we extend our deepest sympathy in remembering

Morris Berkowitz
Husband of Phyllis Berkowitz
Father of Diane LeBas and Lawrence Berkowitz

Jacques Presgow
Cousin of Linda Geyer-Bolder
Jacob Cooper

Father of Howard Cooper
Martin Kohl
Brother of Sheila Davidow

Julius Rosenwald II
Father of Linda Levy

Paul Namm
Father of Dr. Joel Namm





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JEWISH INSTITUTE OF REL
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CINCINNATI OHIO 45220

SOCIAL ACTION

Nancy Fine, Chairperson

Save the Date
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
Superbowl Sunday Dinner
at one of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchens
(Contact Mary Kirsch at 215-321-3496
if you are interested in helping out)

JUDAICA SHOP

Randy Flax, Marilyn Weinstein, and Abbie Katz, Co-Proprietors

Welcome to Har Sinai's Little Shop Holiday Gifts! We have selected reasonably priced items for you religious and secular needs. Shop for teachers and other service people who you wish to acknowledge during this Holiday season.

**WE WILL BE OPEN EVERY SUNDAY IN DECEMBER
BEFORE CHAUNAKKAH**

JUDAICA: NEW TALIT FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. FABULOUS (PRICED VERY WELL) HANAKKIA. CANDLES. CERAMIC KIDDISH CUPS (TO DIE FOR) AND FUN RUBBER DOOR MATS THAT SAY SHOLOM...NEW GELT (SORRY ABOUT LAST YEAR'S BATCH. THIS ORDER IS BRAND NEW)...

SPECIALTY ITEMS: AHAVA SKIN CARE PRODUCTS FROM ISRAEL. JEWELRY. NOVELTY CLOCKS. AND MUCH MORE...

We look forward to serving you and can always use extra help at this busy time.

SISTERHOOD NEWS AND VIEWS

by Linda Bolder

Thursday, December 4, at 7:30 pm

OPEN BOARD MEETING

Har Sinai Temple

All Sisterhood Members Are Invited...

Sunday, December 14, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

The Judaica Shop Will Hold A

CHANUKAH BAZAAR

Tree of Life Room

Friday, December 19, at 6:15 pm

22ND ANNUAL CHANUKAH FAMILY DINNER

Chair: Abbie Katz

Wednesday, March 24, at 6:30 pm

DINNER AND BINGO

Please join us for our annual fun evening with your fellow Sisterhood members and friends.

Details to follow.

Friday, April 16

EDOUARD MANET ART EXHIBIT

Join Sisterhood for a guided tour of the show everyone will be talking about..."*Manet and the Sea*"...and lunch at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. More information to come

DECEMBER 2003 DONATIONS

MEMORIAL FUND

Morris Berkowitz: Edith Neimark
Isaac Byer: Norma & Fred Byer
Jacob Cooper: Howard Cooper
Ann Glatzer: Martin Hersenson
Dr. Sidney Greenwald: Sylvia Greenwald
Sarah Rome: Dorothy Forer

TEMPLE FUND

In Memory Of:

Morris Berkowitz: Elaine & Mathew Lapin
Jacob Cooper: Anne Cooper
Lena Salzberg Engel: Bernice Kline
Ethel Josephson Kline: Bernice Kline
Paul Namm, Father of Dr. Joel Namm: Ruth & Donald Barrack
Maurice Selzer: Seymour Selzer
In Honor Of:
Baby Naming of Avi & Golda Mehl: Penny & Ed Cunningham

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

In Memory Of:

Paul Namm: Alice & Howard Welt

RABBI'S FUND:

In Memory Of:

Abe Graff: Bea & Sam Frey
Gail C. Joseph: Edith & Bill Joseph
Paul Namm: Sheila Davidow, Jane & Martin Millner
Bernice Rudnick: Jean Burdick & Larry Miller
Lorraine Thurm: Kevin Thurm
In Honor Of:
Inez Freedman's Speedy Recovery: Margie & Harvey Silk

CANTOR'S FUND

In Memory Of:

Jacques Presgow, Cousin of Linda Geyer Bolder: The Bolder Family, Eva Geyer and the Lambersky Family
John Wilner, Husband of Marion Wilner & Father of Lois Sternberg: Lois & Jerry Sternberg
Kurt Zeltmacher, M.D.: Muriel Zeltmacher

In Honor Of:

The Birth of Our Granddaughter, Brenna Eve Schoenfeld: Lois & Jerry Sternberg
The Engagement of Lindsey Sternberg to Jason Maggi: Lois & Jerry Sternberg

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In Memory Of:

Julius Rosenwald II: Edie & Arnie Gordon
Paul Namm: The Lynde Family

MUSIC FUND

In Memory Of:

E. Richard Zimmerman: Gail Coplein and Graham Tebb

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory Of:

Morris Berkowitz: Linda & Art Finkle
Paul Namm: Linda & Art Finkle

ISRAEL SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND

In Honor Of:

Birth of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Rosenberg's Twin Granddaughters: Dorothy Gogoff

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PROGRAM FUND

In Honor Of:

Abby & Richard Katz's son, Philip, Becoming a Bar Mitzvah: Gail Coplein & Graham Tebb
Lee Rosenberg's Birthday: Harriet & Sherman Gould

STEPHANIE MANN MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory Of:

Lena Saltzberg Engel: Charlotte & Herb Levin
Uncle of Donna Goldstein: Renee & Saul Wolfson
Paul Namm: Inez & Mike Freedman, Joanne & Dick

Hochman, Becky & Jimmy Levy, Judy & Lowell Mann, Lynne & Bill Newman, Suzi & Richard Troll

Lucille Rizman: Betsy Weston
Julius Rosenwald, Father of Linda Levy: Becky & Jimmy Levy

In Honor Of:

Deborah Bard's Speedy Recovery: Charlotte & Herb Levin
Larry Edelman's Speedy Recovery: Lynne & Bill Newman
Inez Freedman's Speedy Recovery: Lynne & Bill Newman
Donna Goldstein's Birthday: Renee & Saul Wolfson
Marjorie Hano's Speedy Recovery: Marilyn & Harold Zelt
Judy Mann's Speedy Recovery: Lynne & Bill Newman
Harvey Silk's Special Birthday: Joanne & Richard Hochman, Becky & Jimmy Levy
Renee & Saul Wolfson's son, Michael, Marriage to Melanie Schatz: Lynn & Keith Pilot

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory Of:

Morris Berkowitz: Charlotte & Herb Levin

SISTERHOOD GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES

JOY AND SORROW FUND

In Honor Of:

Betty & Mervyn Platt's 60th Anniversary: Dorothy Forer & Hank Glazer

HILDRED AND I. IRVING GROSS MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory Of:

Irving & Hildred Gross: Max and Jo Gross
Frank Kushner: Roslyn Kushner
Martin Segal: Evelyn Weinstein

CELEBRATE CHANUKAH IN YOUR HOME

WHAT IS CHANUKAH?

Chanukah is an eight day festival, celebrating the miraculous victory of the Jewish revolt against the Hellenistic rulers of Israel in 165 BCE. Antiochus IV, the King of Syria, sent officers to the cities of Judea to command the people to break the Sabbath and ignore the holy Jewish festivals. They placed an idol on the altar of God and incense burned in its honor. An officer asked Mattathias, a great and popular priest of the city of Modin, to be an example to the people and be amongst the first to worship the idol. Mattathias refused for himself, his sons, and all faithful Hebrews. Eventually, the oppression of the Hebrew people led them to go to war under their commander-in-chief, Judah The Maccabee, a son of Mattathias. Because they were dedicated to their religious heritage and to the principles for which it stood, they were filled with the courage and strength to finally be victorious against the Syrians.

Judah, his brothers, and all loyal Jews came Temple in Jerusalem. The Temple which had a pagan temple for the worship of Zeus was rededicated. This dedication began on the 25th day of Kislev and lasted for eight days, just as did the dedications of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness (Leviticus 8:1 -9:10) and of King Solomon's temple (I Kings 8:54-66). Talmudic legend attributed the length of the festival to a miraculous cruse of consecrated oil for the Temple's Menorah. This little cruse, uncontaminated by the Greek pagan sacrifices, contained barely enough somehow, the flames lasted for 8 days until new, pure oil could be pressed. Later generations of rabbis decided instead to focus on the allegory of kindling lights against the darkness, and the power of each of us to how one person, Mattathias, Judah Maccabee's father, sparked an entire revolt that ultimately led to the restoration of Jewish sovereignty over the land of Israel and the Temple.

CHANUKAH BLESSINGS

The lights of Chanukah are a symbol of our joy. In time of darkness, our ancestors had the courage to struggle for freedom: freedom to be themselves, freedom to worship in their own way. Theirs was a victory of the weak over the strong, the few over the many, and the righteous over the arrogant. It was a victory for all ages and all peoples.

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו
במצותיו, וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

Baruch ata Adonai elohaynu melech ha'olam, asher kid'sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav vitzi-va-nu l'had-lik nayr shel Chanukah.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruling Spirit of the Universe, Who has sanctified us by Your laws and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם, שעשה נסים לאבותינו
בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

Baruch ata Adonai elohaynu melech ha'olam, she'asa ni'sim la'avotayne ba'ya'mim ha'haym ba'zman ha-zeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruling Spirit of the Universe, Who did wondrous things for our ancestors in those days.

(for first night only)

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקימנו
והגיענו לזמן הזה.

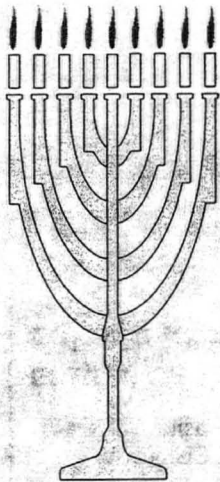
Baruch ata Adonai elohaynu melech ha'olam, she-he-che-ya-nu, v'ki-y'ma-nu, v'hi-gi-g-nu la'zman hazeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruling Spirit of the Universe, Who has granted us life, sustained us and permitted us to celebrate this joyous festival.

CREATE CHANUKAH TRADITIONS IN YOUR HOME

- Each family member can create or purchase his or her own Chanukiyah (Menorah). Each night everyone lights their own chanukiyah. Your home will certainly glow with all the lights of Chanukah.
- Or, work together to design and create a family Chanukiyah
- Create a Chanukah family album. Each year take a picture of your family in front of the Chanukiyah and keep the photos in your Chanukah album.
- Every dinner during the week can feature a special Chanukah food traditional somewhere in the Jewish world.
- Use *Haneirot Halalu: These Lights are Holy*, for a brief family reading each evening before lighting the candles.
- Collect Chanukah "gelt" and decide as a family to which cause you will donate the money.
- Make the 8th night of Chanukah extra special. Instead of exchanging gifts on this night, donate \$18 to the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jews to buy food for a child. See the flyer included in this Bulletin.
- Design your own Chanukah gift wrap or greeting cards. Cut a potato in half. Draw a Chanukiyah, a dreidel or a Jewish star with a pencil outside the design. To print, either use stamp pads, or brush tempera paint on the design. Press evenly onto the wrapping or card paper.
- Placing our Chanukiyot outside, or in the window, is a way of "announcing the miracle." Together, list the miracles God has performed for the Jewish people. Discuss the miracles you, as a family, have experienced during the past year.
- Make a Chanukah Siddur with a great number of empty pages. Include in the beginning the words to the Chanukah blessings. Each year, write a family prayer thanking God for that which you have experienced during the year in your family siddur. Add those prayers to your family candle-lighting ritual.

The warmth of Chanukah and its lights can bring a special warmth and beauty to your home, and create wonderful Jewish memories that will be cherished for a lifetime.



DID YOU KNOW.....?

We are taught that our Chanukiyah should be placed outside if at all possible, so that passers-by will see its light. If we can't put it outside, the next best thing is by a window.....

The account of Chanukah is not mentioned in the Bible. Rather it appears in the Books of the Maccabees, which are part of the Apocrypha (extra-Biblical books)

The name of God is never mentioned in the Books of the Maccabees.

FROM RIGHT TO LEFT AND LEFT TO RIGHT

The candles are placed in our Chanukiyah from the right to the left as you look at it, the same way we read Hebrew. However, we light the candles from left to right. Why? So we can give the newest candle, and thus the newest day, the honor of being lit first. Say the blessings, then light the shamash candle. Use the shamash candle to light the others.

Normally we light our Chanukiyah after sunset. However, on Shabbat, we do it before sunset and before our Shabbat candles. You can use your shamash candle to light your Shabbat candles.

MENORAH VS. CHANUKIYAH

While all Chanukah lamps are menorot (plural for menorah!), not all menorot are Chanukah lamps. A menorah is a seven branched candelabrum, with three branches on each side of the center. This type of lamp was used in the Tabernacle in the desert, in the Temple of Jerusalem, and is now one of the symbols of Israel. A "Chanukiyah" must have eight candles, plus a shamash (helper candle) to light the others.

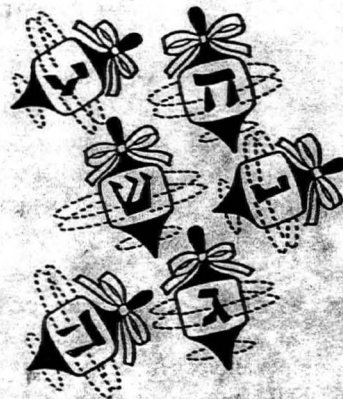
IS THE SCORE 8 TO 1; OR IS IT 1 TO 8?????

Two of the great Rabbis, Hillel and Shammai, argued about the lighting of the Chanukiyah. Shammai claimed that since there was less and less oil left burning in the Temple each day, the number of lights in the Chanukiyah should decrease daily. In other words, on the first night of the festival, the Chanukiyah should be filled with 8 brightly burning candles. By the last night, one lone candle would remain.

Hillel disagreed. He taught that each night, the miracle of the oil became greater. Therefore, he argued, on the first night, we should light one candle, and on each subsequent night, we should add another. On the last night, there will be 8 candles burning brightly for all to see.

WHY DO WE PLAY DREIDEL ON CHANUKAH?

When the Syrians decreed that the teaching or studying of Torah was a crime meriting a severe punishment, Jewish children defiantly studied in secret. When Syrian patrols came near, the children pretended to be playing an innocent game of dreidel.



WHAT IS A DREIDEL

A dreidel is a spinning top. It has four sides and on each side there is a Hebrew letter. The four letters are nun, gimmel, hay, and shin, the first letters in the Hebrew words which mean "A great miracle happened there." In Israel, the four letters on a dreidel are nun, gimmel, hay and pay, the first letters in the Hebrew words for "A great miracle happened HERE." The miracle, of course, is the miracle of Chanukah which happened in Israel over 2,000 years ago.

HOW TO PLAY DREIDEL

Dreidel is a game of chance for two or more players. To play, you will need a dreidel and whatever you're playing with: raisins, nuts, pennies, candy, etc. **Begin** by giving all players an equal number of whatever you're playing with (example: 10 raisins). Play begins with each player "putting in" one raisin in the center. The players then take turns spinning the dreidel. Each time the dreidel stops spinning, one of its four letters will be facing up. Each letter means something different and indicates what that spinner must now do:

- ⌒ (Nun) means the player who spun the dreidel does nothing.
- ⌒ (Shin) means the player puts one raisin in the center.
- ⌒ (Hay) means the player wins half the raisins in the center.
- ⌒ (Gimmel) means the player wins them all.

After Gimmel (a player takes all the raisins), each player must put one raisin in the center and the game begins again. The next player spins the dreidel. Any player who has lost all his raisins is out of the game. The game ends when one player has all the raisins or at a predetermined time like after 10 gimmels.

ROCK OF AGES

Rock of ages, let our song
Praise Your saving power;
You, amid the raging foe
Were our sheltering tower.
Furious, they assailed us
But Your arm availed us,
And Your word broke their sword,
When our own strength failed us.

